

COMMISSION FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND LICENSING

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January 26, 1976

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TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the
Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing

FROM: Peter L. LoPresti, Executive Secretary *PLP*

SUBJECT: Examination Conference

The Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing is conducting a special conference on the use of examinations as a part of the credentialing process for educational personnel in California. This conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., February 11, 1976, at the Airport Marina, Burlingame.

As you are aware, since the Ryan Act mandates the use of an examination system as the primary means of verifying a credential candidate's subject matter knowledge, the Commission for Teacher Preparation and Licensing has been utilizing the National Teacher Examinations System as an interim method of meeting this mandate.

Although the National Teacher Examinations Battery was adopted on an interim basis, the Commission has been unable to obtain fiscal authorization to develop examinations. The conference will deal with this difficulty as well as dealing with alternative means of meeting the mandate of the law.

The Examination Conference will be preceded by a work session of invited state and national experts in test development who will provide technical data relating to examinations in general, i.e., advantages and disadvantages of normative examinations, performance examinations, criterion referenced, and essay examinations; cost differences, and developmental steps required. This data will be made available at the Examination Conference when invitees will be asked to consider the proper and productive use of an examination system as part of the credentialing process, and to develop recommendations as to the preferred nature of the system.

We regret that because of budgetary restrictions we will be unable to pay expenses for the conference. However, we do hope that your interest in the credentialing process will warrant your participation.

If you have any questions you think should be considered at the conference, please send them to Mrs. Marjorie B. Brodt, of my staff. Please also notify her who will be attending by calling (916) 445-4102.